

Records of *Hypaurotis crysalus* (Edwards) (Lycaenidae) from Western Mexico

The distribution of *Hypaurotis crysalus* (Edwards) in the western United States can be predicted reliably by the range of its larval host, *Quercus gambelii* Nuttall (Fagaceae). Both are widely distributed in the Rocky Mountains from southern Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and eastern Nevada, south through Arizona and New Mexico. Although the host extends considerably further southward and eastward into Texas and the Mexican states of Sonora, Chihuahua, Coahuila, and northernmost Durango, *H. crysalus* has been reported only once from Mexico (de la Maza and de la Maza, 1975, Rev. Soc. Mex. Lepid. 1(2):64), and this record was from Nuevo Leon.

I have examined two specimens of *H. crysalus* from western Mexico: 1 ♂, Durango, 10 mi W El Salto, 8800', VII-18-64 (J. Powell, Essig Entomological Museum, University of California, Berkeley); and 1 ♂, Durango, Cruz de Piedra, Sierra Madre Mts., IX-4-78 (R. Breedlove, San Diego Natural History Museum). These localities are nearly 900 km south of the international border (Arizona-Sonora). In addition, Richard Holland (personal communication) has collected *H. crysalus* twice in Sonora: 44.9 mi S Huachinera, VII-2-79, 7300'; and 14.8 mi S Huachinera, VII-4-79, 6900'; and Javier de la Maza (personal communication) reports a single specimen from the Sierra San Pedro Martir of northern Baja California.

None of the specimens from Mexico was collected in association with *Q. gambelii*. Holland mentioned that all oaks at the sites of his captures were "encinal" or live oaks; Powell indicated that his specimen was most likely associated with *Quercus sideroxyla* (Humb. and Bonpl.) [= *Q. omisa* (A.D.C.)] (JAP#433; det. J. Tucker); de la Maza's (1975) record from Nuevo Leon is beyond the known eastern range of *Q. gambelii*; and *Q. gambelii* does not occur in Baja California. No species of oak is common to all these regions. The data suggest that the southern limit of *H. crysalus* is not defined by the occurrence of *Q. gambelii*, and that other species of oak must serve as larval foodplants in Mexico.

Comstock (1927, Butterflies of California, pg. 156, published by the author) mentioned the occurrence of *H. crysalus* in California on the basis of three specimens, subsequently believed by Emmel and Emmel (1973, The butterflies of southern California, Nat. Hist. Mus. Los Angeles Co., Sci. Ser. 26:94) to be mislabelled, owing to the absence of *Q. gambelii* in California. However, the record of *H. crysalus* from Baja California suggests that the California records may indeed be valid.

I thank Richard Holland and Javier de La Maza E. for Mexican records of *H. crysalus*; John Tucker (University of California, Davis) for information on *Quercus*; Robert Robbins (United States National Museum) and Jerry Powell (University of California, Berkeley) for comments on the brief manuscript; and Thomas Duncan (University of California, Berkeley) for allowing me access to the Jepson-University of California Herbarium at Berkeley.

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